

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s)	Wesley E. Brackett et al.	Examiner	Not Yet Assigned
Serial No.	Not Yet Assigned	Group Art No.	Not Yet Assigned
Filed	Herewith	Confirmation No.	Not Yet Assigned
For	LOCKING TRAILER TONGUE EXTENSION ASSEMBLY		

March 3, 2004

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ inside 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ☐ a \$180 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, which ever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of issue fee)

☒ Please charge to Deposit Account 12-0600 the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 12-0600 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

☐ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 – Information Disclosure Citation together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of the application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

☒ This Application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, Applicant(s) submit(s) herewith Form PTO 1449 – Information Disclosure Citation without copies of U.S. patents or U.S. publications, but includes copies of foreign patents, publications or other information of

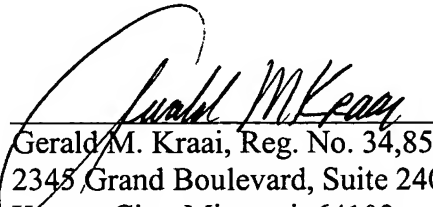
which Applicant(s) is/are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of the application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counter part foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application

Respectfully submitted,

LATHROP & GAGE LLC

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

Sheet	1	of	2
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number

Filing Date

**First Named Inventor**

**Wesley E. Brackett**

**Art Unit**

**Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

417660

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-3,951,444	04-20-1976	P. H. Shull	
		US- 4,258,930	03-31-1981	D. F. Hess	
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		US- 6,644,071	11-11-2003	M. Gilbertson et al.	

[illegible]

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Sheet	2	of	2
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Attorney Docket Number	417660
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Signature**

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